From:
To: Aquind Interconnector

Subject: Objection to Aquind Interconnector

Date: 18 November 2021 09:15:54

Dear Inspector,

I write to object, yet again,in the strongest possible terms to the Aquind interconnector infrastructure project which plans to lay cables from France to Portsmouth.

I object to these plans for the following reasons:

- 1) Lack of transparent engagement with the public. Plans have been complicated, changeable and hard to access from the start, with no proper public consultations. Many people only heard of the plans via social media! Transparency has further fallen by the wayside since it has been revealed that considerable donations have been made to the Conservative party by the director of Aquind and Kwasi Kwarteng denied supporting the project, despite evidence to the contrary! (as shown on the BBC programme, Panorama)
- 2) The air quality in Portsmouth is already very poor, with pollution causing considerable health problems. This would only get worse if this project went ahead. The Eastern Road would need to be partially closed to traffic in order to carry out the works, leading to delays backing up onto the M27 and A3. There are only three roads off and onto the island of Portsmouth.

3) Environmental impact on the city.

This can not be overstated. Portsmouth needs its green spaces with its protected habitats. The plans cut directly through these green spaces, including Milton allotments, Milton Common (home to protected wildlife) This ecologically unsound project will create destruction all along its route, particularly Langstone Harbour, an SSSI, SPA and a Ramsar site, and as far as Lovedean & areas bordering The Southdowns National Park.

THIS IS SERIOUSLY DISTRESSING AND TAKING A HUGE LEAP BACKWARDS. Especially in light of the recent COP26 meeting.

I believe this project goes against the spirit of environmental responsibility and being forward thinking, ethical and transparent. The people, councillors and MPs of Portsmouth do not want it and we stand united against it!!

I hope you will seriously consider these points I make.

Thank you for your time, Rachel Lajon,